

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 01418 101548Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15

/087 W

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R 092251Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3327

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

UNCLAS BOGOTA 1418

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, ETRD, CO

SUBJECT: ANDEAN PACT REPS VISIT COLOMBIA

REF: 75 BOGOTA 12254, BOGOTA 0782

1. ANDEAN PACT JUNTA MEMBERS, LED BY SALVADOR LLUCH, ARRIVED IN BOGOTA LATE LAST WEEK TO MEET WITH GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES AS PART OF AN EFFORT TO RESOLVE PROBLEMS CURRENTLY FACING THE PACT. LLUCH INFORMED THE PRESS THAT THE ANDEAN PACT WAS PASSING THROUGH "ITS WORST CRISIS EVER" AND THAT THE RESOLUTION OF MATTERS SUCH AS SECTORAL PROGRAMMING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON EXTERNAL TARIFF WOULD REQUIRE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL ATTENTION AND DECISIONS. PRIOR TO DEPARTING, LLUCH SAID THAT HE WAS VERY PLEASED WITH HIS MEETING WITH PRESIDENT LOPEZ, AND ADDED THAT LOPEZ HAD PROMISED FULL POLITICAL SUPPORT TO THE PACT.

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2. CONCURRENT WITH THE JUNATA VISIT, VENEZUELAN FINANCE MINISTER HECTOR HURTADO WAS IN BOGOTA TO CONCLUDE A SERIES OF BILATERAL ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS. WHEN QUESTIONED ON ANDEAN PACT MATTERS, HURTADO REPLIED THAT VENEZUELA AND COLOMBIA WERE PREPARING A PROPOSAL, INVOLVING AN EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD PERMITTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTORAL PROGRAMMING, WHICH WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE OTHER COUNTRIES. WHILE HURTADO WAS NOT SPECIFIC AS TO THE CONTENTS OF THE JOINT PROPOSAL, INDUSTRY SOURCES HAVE INFORMED US THAT IT FOLLOWS CLOSELY THE AGREEMENT REACHED WHEN PRESIDENTS LOPEZ AND PEREZ MET LAST DECEMBER 75 BOGOTA 12254).
VAKY

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Disposition Event:
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04 MAY 2006

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To: STATE
Type: TE
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